

In the Claims

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims. Canceled claims have been canceled without prejudice.

1. (Currently amended) A kit comprising:

a first article having a surface; and

a peptide sequence immobilized relative to or adapted to be immobilized relative to the surface, the peptide sequence comprising a portion of a cell surface receptor, in which an interchain binding region has been removed to the extent necessary to prevent self-aggregation of the peptide, wherein the peptide sequence interacts with an activating ligand to promote cell proliferation, wherein the primary sequence of said cell surface receptor consists of residues 1110-1154 of SEQ ID NO:10.

2. (Previously presented) The kit as in claim 1, further comprising a second article having a surface and the peptide sequence immobilized relative to or adapted to be immobilized relative to the surface of the second article.

3-225. (Canceled)

226. (Previously presented) The kit according to claim 1, wherein the activating ligand is 14-3-3 protein, cathepsin D protein, or NM23 protein.

227. (Canceled)

228. (Previously presented) The kit according to claim 1, wherein the peptide sequence comprises at least 12 contiguous amino acids from the sequence residues 1110-1154 of SEQ ID NO:10.

229. (Previously presented) The kit according to claim 1, wherein the peptide sequence comprises at least 12 contiguous amino acids from the sequence residues 1110-1142 of SEQ ID NO:10.

230. (Previously presented) The kit according to claim 1, wherein the article is a colloid particle.

231. (Previously presented) The kit according to claim 230, wherein the colloid is a gold colloid.

232. (Previously presented) The kit according to claim 1, wherein the peptide is adapted to be fastened to the article by an affinity tag attached to the peptide.

233. (Previously presented) The kit according to claim 232, wherein the affinity tag is polyamino acid tag, polyhistidine tag, GST tag, biotin, or thioredoxin.

234. (Previously presented) The kit according to claim 232, wherein the affinity tag is fastened to the C-terminus of the portion of the peptide.

235. (Previously presented) The kit according to claim 234, further comprising the activating ligand.

236. (Previously presented) The kit according to claim 235, wherein the activating ligand is NM23.